

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-20 SPC-03 NSC-10

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SCEM-02 IO-14 PRS-01

EB-11 SCI-06 OMB-01 DRC-01 /134 W

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R 211615Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3743

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

S E C R E T TUNIS 6514

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TS, LY, XF

SUBJECT: VISIT OF HABIB BOURGUIBA, JR. TO LIBYA

REF: TUNIS 6285 (NOTAL)

DEPARTMENT PASS CAIRO

1. SUMMARY. BOURGUIBA JR. CONTENTS THAT QADHAFI HAS MELLOWED TO EXTENT HE QUIETLY WELCOMES U.S. MIDDLE EAST INITIATIVE DESPITE HIS PUBLIC STATMENTS, AND FAVORS PLACING MORE EMPHASIS ON HIS NORTH AFRICAN RELATIONS AND LESS ON EASTERN ARAB WORLD. QADHAFI LISTENED WHILE BOURGUIBA JR. EXPOUNDED ON DESIRABILITY OF EASING ARAB OIL BOYCOTT, LAUNCHING ARAB INFORMATIONAL CAMPAIGN IN U.S. AND COMBINING FORCES TO COMBAT OIL

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POLLUTION IN MEDITERRANEAN. END SUMMARY.

2. I LEARNED FROM HABIB BOURGUIBA, JR. TODAY, NOVEMBER 21, THAT HE HAD A USEFUL CHAT WITH QADHAFI DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO TRIPOLI (REFTEL). HE CLAIMED THAT QADHAFI "HAS MOVED NINETY DEGREES" IN SENSE THAT: (A) QADHAFI IS NOW DEFINITELY INTERESTED IN BUILDING A NORTH AFRICAN COMMUNITY OF INTERESTS RATHER THAN PUTTING MOST OF HIS EMPHASIS ON LINKS WITH EASTERN ARAB WORLD; AND (B) IS QUIETLY PLEASED WITH U.S. MIDDLE EAST INITIATIVE. (WHEN I EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT LATTER, AND NOTED QADHAFI'S PUBLIC STATEMENTS INDICATED EXACTLY OPPOSITE, HE ACCEPTED MY POINT BUT SAID HE MERELY CONVEYING HIS IMPRESSION.)

3. WITH REGARD TO U.S. MIDDLE EAST INITIATIVE, BOURGUIBA JR. SAID THAT HE HAD SHARED WITH QADHAFI ON CONFIDENTIAL BASIS TUNISIA'S IMPRESSION THAT IN PURSUING THIS EFFORT USG FACED DOUBLE PROBLEM OF CONVINCING ISRAELI "HAWKS" AND AMERICAN "ZIONISTS". THEREFORE, HE HAD ARGUED IMPORTANCE ARAB COUNTRIES FACILITATE U.S. EFFORT, IN AT LEAST TWO SPECIFIC WAYS: (A) EASE ARAB OIL BOYCOTT AND (B) JOIN FORCES IN PUBLICIZING IN U.S. THE ARAB POSITION.

4. ON MATTER OF OIL BOYCOTT, BOURGUIBA JR. SAID THAT HE STRESSED TO QADHAFI THAT AS COLD WINTER ARRIVES IN NORTH AMERICA, AMERICANS WOULD START CURSING ARAB OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES FOR THAT BOYCOTT AND ARAB CAUSE WOULD SUFFER. THIS WOULD COMPLICATE CURRENT KISSINGER PEACE INITIATIVE AND PLAY INTO HANDS OF ZIONISTS. BOURGUIBA JR. SAID HE ALSO CALLED ATTENTION TO NEGATIVE IMPACT IN U.S. AND EUROPE OF PROHIBITIVELY HIGH OIL PRICES. THIS WOULD ONLY REENFORCE TENDENCIES TO BECOME TOTALLY INDEPENDENT OF MIDDLE EAST OIL. BOURGUIBA JR. CLAIMED THAT QADHAFI RESPONDED FAVORABLY TO HIS PRESENTATION, BUT MADE NO COMMITMENTS.

5. RE ARAB INFORMATION EFFORT IN U.S., BOURGUIBA JR. SAID THAT HE HAD PROPOSED THAT ARAB OIL-PRODUCING NATIONS JOIN TOGETHER TO FINANCE INFORMATIONAL CAMPAIGN IN U.S. IN CONJUNCTION WITH TUNISIA, "WHICH HAS GOOD REPUTATION AND CONTACTS IN U.S." ACCORDING TO BOURGUIBA JR., QADHAFI WELCOMED THIS PROPOSAL. BOURGUIBA JR. SAID THAT HE HAD ALSO DISCUSSED THIS PROPOSITION

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WITH SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTER SAQQAF DURING HIS RECENT BRIEF VISIT TO TUNISIA, AND SAQQAF HAD PLEDGED SAUDI SUPPORT. BOURGUIBA JR. SAID HE INTENDED RAISE SUBJECT WITH KUWAIT FOREIGN MINISTER, WHO VISITING TUNISIA TOMORROW ENROUTE TO ALGERIA.

6. BOURGUIBA JR. SAID HE HAD ALSO PROPOSED TO QADHAFI JOINT ACTION BY TUNISIA, ALGERIA AND LIBYA TO ELIMINATE OIL POLLUTION IN MEDITERRANEAN CAUSED BY TANKERS DUMPING THEIR BALLAST. THIS

WOULD FEATURE CONSTRUCTION OFF ALGERIA, TUNISIA AND LIBYA OF MULTI-PURPOSE "MONOBUOYS" WHICH WOULD INTER ALIA PROVIDE TANKERS WITH MEANS OF PUMPING BALLAST AND WASTE TO SHORE. BOURGUIBA JR. TOOK POSITION THAT GROUP EFFORT BY ALL MEDITERRANEAN RIPARIAN COUNTRIES TOGETHER TO ATTACK POLLUTION WOULD TAKE TOO LONG. URGENCY OF SITUATION REQUIRES UNILATERAL ACTION BY THESE THREE NORTH AFRICAN COUNTRIES. IDEA WOULD BE TO PROHIBIT TANKERS FROM DUMPING WASTE ANYWHERE IN MEDITERRANEAN IN AREA OF ALGERIA, TUNISIA AND LIBYA AND BOYCOTTING TANKERS WHO COMMIT VIOLATIONS. (CURRENTLY, HE SAYS, TANKERS MAY DUMP BALLAST INTO SEA FIFTY MILES FROM SHORE.) BOURGUIBA SAID THAT QADHAFI HEARTILY WELCOMED PROPOSAL. BOURGUIBA JR. SAID HE TOLD QADHAFI THAT ADDITIONAL DIVIDENT WOULD BE TO IMPROVE ARAB IMAGE IN WESTERN AND PARTICULARLY AMERICAN EYES BY DEMONSTRATING ARAB DESIRE WORK CONSTRUCTIVELY TOWARD IMPROVING ENVIRONMENT. (WHEN I ASKED HOW THREE COUNTRIES PROPOSED POLICING THIS PROGRAM, BOURGUIBA JR. SAID THEY WOULD MAINTAIN SEA AND AIR SURVEILLANCE.)

7. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUESTION, BOURGUIBA JR. SAID THAT QADHAFI HAD NOT SPECIFICALLY PLEDGED FUNDS BUT OBVIOUSLY WAS PREPARED IN PRINCIPLE TO PUT MONEY INTO VARIOUS FOREGOING SCHEMES.

8. COMMENT: I WOULD GUESS THAT BOURGUIBA JR.'S INCLINATION TO CREDIT QADHAFI WITH GREATER REASONABLENESS IN HIS APPROACH TO MIDDLE EAST IS EXAGGERATED, AS PRESUMABLY IS HIS ASSUMPTION THAT QADHAFI ACCEPTED THESIS THAT ARAB OIL BOYCOTT IS POTENTIALLY HARMFUL TO ARAB CAUSE. (I INVITE CHARGE JOSIF TO COMMENT.) NEVERTHELESS, TUNISIAN EFFORTS ARE TO BE WELCOMED. HOWEVER EXAGGERATED MAY BE TUNISIAN BELIEF THAT GOT CAN EXERCISE CONSTRUCTIVE INFLUENCE ON QADHAFI, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT QADHAFI IS AT LEAST GOOD LISTENER. FURTHERMORE, LIBYA IS  
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PARTICIPATING INCREASINGLY IN VARIOUS TUNISIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. TODAY'S PRESS REPORTS THAT LIBYA HAS JUST PLEDGED 20 MILLION DINARS (\$50 MILLION) FOR FINANCING SIX PROJECTS CALLED FOR BY TUNISIA'S FOUR-YEAR PLAN. BOURGUIBA JR.'S MEDITERRANEAN POLLUTION SCHEME MAY BE UNREALISTIC, BUT AS HE PUTS IT, "NOTHING VENTURED, NOTHING GAINED".  
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## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, TS, LY, XF, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (BOURGUIBA, HABIB JR)  
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